

across the disc of Saturn, below the shadow of the rings, is a *third ring*; if this be so, the telescope exhibited that also.

Uranus and Neptune appeared as discs of a faint yellow colour, small but easily to be distinguished from the stars in the same field.

The Treasurer presented his annual report, which was read and referred to the Committee of Finance.

The annual report of the Committee of Publication was read.

Dr. Joseph Carson, having presented for the library of the Society, a printed copy of a Memoir written by him, on the life and character of the late James B. Rogers, M.D., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Pennsylvania, was excused from his appointment to prepare an obituary notice of Dr. Rogers for this Society.

Stated Meeting, December 19.

Present, thirteen members.

Dr. DUNGLISON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Dr. J. C. Adamson, dated New York, Dec. 17, 1856, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as a member of the Society:—

From the Royal Institution:—from the Statistical Society:—and from the Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce,—all dated London, Nov. 22, 1856, and acknowledging the receipt of Proceedings of the Society: and—

From the Editors of the Natural History Review (the Journal of the Zoological and Botanical Association), dated 5, Trinity College, Dublin, Nov. 28, 1856, announcing the transmission of a donation, and expressing their desire for a scientific intercourse and exchange of publications with this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Tenth Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, showing the operations, expenditures and condition of

- the Institution, up to Jan. 1, 1856: And the Proceedings of the Board, up to March 22, 1856. Washington. 8vo.—*From the Institution.*
- Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia. Vol. VIII. No. 5. Sept.—Oct. 1856. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*
- The African Repository. Vol. XXXII. No. 12. Dec. 1856. Washington. 8vo.—*From the Am. Colonization Society.*
- Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for the year 1855. *Arts and Manufactures.* Vol. I. Washington. 8vo.—*From the Hon. C. Mason, C.P.*
- New Tables for determining the values of the co-efficients in the perturbative function of Planetary Motion, which depend upon the ratio of the mean distances. By John D. Runkle, Assistant in the Office of the American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac. (Smithsonian Contributions). 1856. 4to.—*From the Author.*
- Address delivered before the Montgomery County Agricultural Society: By J. R. Tyson, LL.D. of Philadelphia, an Honorary Member. 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- A Decimal System for the Arrangement and Administration of Libraries. By Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, M.D. Boston, 1856. 4to.—*From the Author.*
- Proceedings on the occasion of laying the Corner-stone of the Public Library of the City of Boston, Sept. 17, 1855. Boston. 8vo.—*From N. B. Shurtleff, M.D.*
- Fourth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, Oct. 1856. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Proceedings of the Cushman Celebration at Plymouth, Aug. 15, 1855, in Commemoration of the Embarkation of the Plymouth Pilgrims from Southampton, England:—together with an account of the Services at the grave of Elder Thomas Cushman, Aug. 16, 1855. Boston. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Thirteenth Report to the Legislature of Massachusetts, relating to the Registry and Returns of Births, Marriages and Deaths in the Commonwealth, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1854. By Ephraim M. Wright, Secretary of the Commonwealth. Boston. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London. Nos. 292 to 304, inclusive. 1855–6. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester.

Second Series. Vol. XIII. (Memoir of John Dalton.) London, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. XIV. No. 168. Dec. 1856. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

The Astronomical Journal. No. 98. Dec. 10, 1856. Albany. 4to.—*From Dr. B. A. Gould, jr., Editor.*

The Committee to which was referred the biographical notice of Mr. F. A. Michaux, read by Mr. Durand at the last meeting, reported in favour of its being published as an introductory article to Part 1, of Vol. XI. of the Transactions:—Which was ordered accordingly and the committee discharged.

Dr. Franklin Bache announced the decease of William Yarell, of London, a member of this Society, who died August 31, 1856, aged 72.

A paper intended for the Transactions, entitled “Remarks on the Structure of the Foot of the Megalonyx; by Joseph Leidy, M.D., was read and referred to Dr. Le Conte, Prof. Trego and Dr. Bridges, as a Committee.

The Committee of Finance reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, and found them correct. The committee recommended the following appropriations for the current year, which were ordered to be made.

For Publications,	. . .	£400
„ Journals,	. . .	50
„ Hall,	. . .	100
„ Binding,	. . .	50
„ General Account,	. . .	1500

The same committee reported a preamble, accompanied by the following resolution, with a recommendation that it be adopted; and it was accordingly adopted:—

Resolved, That the further increase of the permanent publication fund is at this time inexpedient, and that the provisions of the resolution of the Society passed May 21, 1852, relative to said fund be, and the same are hereby suspended until the further order of the Society.

The Transactions and Proceedings of the Society hereafter published, were ordered to be sent to the Dublin University Zoological and Botanical Association.